

THE
DISSEMINATOR
Nova Scotia Provincial Library
ISSN: 1209-2473

V.11, N.6 October 2004

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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Community Access Program (CAP)

AVRL's three summer students were especially successful this year. Lauren and Logan, worked at the Annapolis, Bridgetown and Lawrencetown Branches, where they assisted with children's programs including the Summer Reading Program. Additional duties included updating links on the AVRL web site and preparing brochures, posters and other promotional material. Amy worked at the Wolfville Branch, which allowed the Wolfville CAP Lab to extend their summer hours. Amy also offered special programming.

Equipment

The Wolfville Memorial Library's CAP Lab has been using a wireless router to use the site's Internet connection 24 hours a day. This equipment has also been installed in the Annapolis Royal Branch.

Staff computers are being replaced in preparation for the migration to the new automated system. All computers must have the present operating system replaced with most hardware also being either replaced or upgraded.

The bookmobile serving the western portion of the province has been equipped with new communications equipment. This equipment is necessary to use the new automated library system. It is anticipated the second bookmobile will receive the same configuration.

Branch News

The official launch of the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program was held at the Kentville Branch on June 18. Community Policing Officer Angie Gibson introduced the program to the young audience numbering about 30. The presentation was followed by an entertaining story time with Julie Johnson and Police Chief Mark Mander. The generous sponsorship of Burger King, A & W, and Empire Cinemas allowed the branch to host a weekly draw for dinner and a movie for participants who met their reading goals. The primary goal of this program is to promote youth literacy.

AVRL was pleased to offer additional open hours in both the Annapolis Royal and Middleton Libraries this summer. Annapolis Royal's Wednesday hours were extended from 2-5 to 10-5, and Middleton opened on Wednesdays for the first time from 2-5. In the fall the Lawrencetown Branch will offer Saturday hours, and Windsor, upon the opening of the new facility, will increase its open hours as well.

Work on the new Windsor library is progressing. An on-going series of construction photos may be viewed on the AVRL website at <http://www.valleylibrary.ca/>.

AVRL has received a second \$2,000 grant from the Canadian Federation of University Women/Wolfville to provide special events and programs for children throughout the coming year. In August, two music programs for pre-schoolers began the project, with a Kindermusik instructor as the guest presenter. The fall line-up includes two presentations by author Frances Wolfe; writing workshops by Sylvia Gunnery; and puppet workshops by Mermaid Theatre.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Library Card Month at the Cape Breton Regional Library

CBRL will hold its sixth annual Library Card Month 2004 (LCM) drive during October to register residents of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Victoria County for a free library card. The goal for LCM this year is to register 2004 members during October.

Throughout October, CBRL will hold special events, promotions and prize draws to highlight the importance of having a library card. One event of note is the Celtic Conversation Series, a part of the Celtic Colours Festival, which will be held from October 12-15 at the McConnell Library. Each lunchtime during the week, a musician or storyteller will perform and talk about their artistry and their connections to the Celtic culture. This annual event is a unique opportunity to see celebrated Celtic artists in an informal setting. It is also a great opportunity to visit the library and pick up a new card.

Over the summer, CBRL was very fortunate to have a student, Tracey Snow, hired through the Young Canada Works program to help with outreach to businesses in the area, in preparation for LCM in October. During the summer, Tracey visited over 400 businesses and organizations in the region, promoting the services of the library and asking them to help promote LCM in October.

A Used Book Sale was held at the St. John's Hall in Ingonish at the end of July. This was a fundraiser for the library and all proceeds from the book sale will be used to supplement and support the programs and services of CBRL. The sale was very successful and thousands of books were sold.

An exciting pilot program has started at the Wilfred Oram Memorial Library in North Sydney! The St. John Ambulance READ (reading education assistance dog) Program is being offered on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 and again from 6:00 to 7:00, free of charge and open to any interested school aged children. The first session took place on Tuesday, September 21. The READ Program encourages children to read by giving them the support of a great listener - a dog. Jane Sievenpiper, the Coordinator of the St. John Ambulance dog therapy program explained a READ dog's role, in an article for the Cape Breton Post (September 17, 2004): "The St. John Ambulance READ dog is a dog who is a good listener, calm, focused and peaceful. The READ dog is a dog who loves to lie around and snuggle." If a child needs help reading their book there is someone there to encourage and help them. The 14 children who participated on the first day thought reading to a dog was pretty cool. Some children came to both the afternoon and the evening sessions. Children followed a colourful path of doggyprints to the program room at the back of the library where they were greeted by Jane Seivenpiper and her gentle dog Arthur, as well as Sandra Reno, another member of the St. John Ambulance READ team, and her little dog Heidi. During one evening session five children sat with Arthur and Heidi and took turns reading from a selection of books. The children did a great job reading out loud, asking for help if it was needed, talking about the stories and their pets, and about Arthur and Heidi. It was a great start to this new program!



St. John Ambulance READ Program. (From left to right) Jane Sievenpiper (St. John Ambulance), Paige Wilke, Mallory Wilke, Stephanie Pepovich, Sandra Reno (St. John Ambulance), Arthur and Heidi.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CBRL) Library's Family Literacy Project Funded for a Third Stage

The Hon. Joseph Volpe, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, visited CEHRL on September 1, 2004 to announce the financial support of his department for four projects in Nova Scotia. The Family Literacy Research Project, administered by CEHRL, in partnership with the Department of Education, Adult Education Division, was one of these projects. John Patterson, chair of the Library Board and Michelle Bowden, Project Coordinator, were on hand for the announcement and had the opportunity to speak with the Minister. The other organizations receiving support are the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Dalhousie University and Literacy Nova Scotia. With the main reading room as a backdrop, Minister Volpe stressed the value of education and the changing dynamics of the future workplace that will need new skills to maintain our economic stability. Accompanied by staff and photographers, he was very surprised and pleased with the large turnout at the Truro Branch.

Left to right: John Patterson, Chair of the CEHRL Library Board, Minister Volpe, and Michelle Bowden, Family Literacy Project Coordinator



The Honourable Joseph Volpe, Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

Sweet Sounds of Verse

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College and CEHRL were pleased to present a poetry reading by Carol Malyon and Bill Bissett on July 8 at the Truro Library. Funding for the event was provided by the Canada Council and the Writers' Union of Canada.

Library Foundation Launches Commemorative Calendar

As a tribute to the library's bookmobile service and its 50 plus years on the road (1950-2003), the CEHRL Foundation has created a wonderful calendar for 2005. Filled with photos and newspaper clippings, it takes one back to the days of unpaved roads and visits to one-room schools. The limited edition calendar is available at any CEHRL branches for only \$5.

We're Growing!

On Saturday, September 25, CEHRL celebrated its newest branch. Dignitaries, friends of the library and members of the community at large gathered in the Mount Uniacke Library to applaud the achievements of the community library's founders and to celebrate the library's new role as a branch of the regional library system.

Left to right: Councillor Fred Canavan (District 12B-Mount Uniacke and Treasurer of the Library Board), Elizabeth Armstrong (Provincial Librarian), Warden Lloyd Matheson (Municipality of East Hants), Councillor John Patterson (District 12A-Mount Uniacke and Chair of the Library Board), Janet Pelley (Regional Library Director).



The Power of Public Libraries

For the fourth year, the Power of Public Libraries was displayed at the annual conference of the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities. On September 22 -24, CEHRL hosted the Nova Scotia Public Libraries booth at the 2004 conference in Truro. Regional Library Director Janet Pelley was joined by Provincial Librarian Betsy Armstrong and colleagues Frances Newman and Eric Stackhouse from Cumberland Regional Library and Pictou- Antigonish Regional Library in staffing the booth.



Left to Right: Janet Pelley (Regional Library Director, Colchester-East Hants Regional Library) and Eric Stackhouse (Chief Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Public Library) at the recent UNSM Conference.

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

The CAP Interns were busy throughout Cumberland County planning and conducting computer and Internet training over the summer. Between Library CAP sites and non-library CAP sites, it was reported that 111 cyber-camps were held, with a total of 319 participants. The cyber-camps for individuals of all ages, included such topics as internet for beginners, t-shirt design for kids, a scavenger hunt, web safety and more. Response to the various camps was overwhelming. In addition to the camps, Cumberland County CAP sites assisted approximately 1,250 people with specific computer software or computer problems. Overall, this summer's CAP program was a huge success and was made possible through Industry Canada and the Office of Economic Development.

On August 12 the Read To Me! program was officially launched at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre. CURL has developed a special pamphlet to insert in the book bags. Premier John Hamm officially launched the program and MLA Ernie Fage and Chief Librarian Frances Newman were guest speakers.

The campaign to raise funds for a new library in Pugwash received a shot in the arm from the Gathering of the Clans committee recently, when they donated \$2,000 to the project. The Pugwash branch of Scotiabank also held a 50/50 draw for the library and raised over \$400. Plans are underway for a used book sale and *reading round up* days at the local Co-op.

Two baby change stations have been purchased by the Town of Amherst for the women's and men's public washrooms of the Amherst Branch. The baby change stations have become essential now that the library is offering programs for babies and their parents. Previously, frustrated parents had no choice but to change their baby's diaper on the floor or on top of tables in the library. One parent actually changed her baby on top of the photocopier!

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

The fifth annual ECRL Basement Book Sale was quite an achievement, generating a revenue of approximately \$1,300 and drawing crowds of book lovers! Patrons and customers filled dozens of boxes and bags - even a wastebasket was filled, emptied and returned to the cash table several

times, a great recycling effort! On hand for the event was summer resident Louis Del Grande (and his wife, Martha) former writer and star of such popular TV series of the '80s as *The King of Kensington* and *Seeing Things*.

(Right front): ECRL staff members, Rhonda Strachan and Mildred Carrigan fill the bags for the customers.



Award-winning author Donna Morrissey toured the region at the end of August thanks to funding from the Canada Council for the Arts. Donna travelled to St. Peter's, Guysborough and Mulgrave where audiences loved her quick wit and her combination of humor, satire and dramatization. Drawing upon her past experiences from growing up in a small outport in Newfoundland, Donna offered her audiences a glimpse into the inspiration behind her books.



Past Chair of ECRL's Board of Directors, Julia MacQuarrie (left) was on hand in Mulgrave to meet author Donna Morrissey.

Author and summer resident Claire Mowat (third from left) was in the audience at the St. Peter's reading, along with Richmond County author Mary Pat Cude (far right) and other community members.



Touring on the heels of Donna Morrissey was Cape Bretoner Billy Budge, author of *Memoirs of a Light Keeper's Son*, who travelled to Sherbrooke. Budge thrilled the audience at the Sherbrooke Village Exhibit Centre with his slide presentation and narration depicting his childhood memories of St. Paul Island, a small island off the coast of Cape Breton, nick-named *the graveyard of the Gulf* because of the many shipwrecks and loss of lives along its shores.

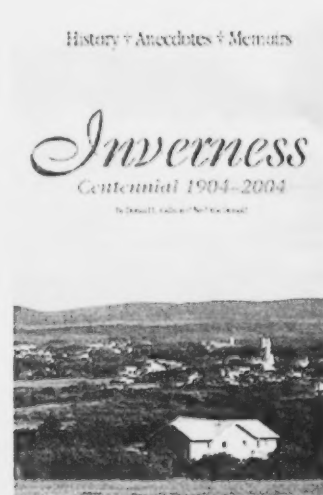
Both Budge and Morrissey returned to the Strait area in September for *FEIS 2004: An Ode to the Outport*, a fundraising event sponsored by the Port Hawkesbury Literacy Council and supported by ECRL.



ECRL staff were on hand to meet authors Billy Budge and Donna Morrissey following the FEIS 2004 event. From left to right: James Cameron, Charlene Bonin, Dave Cumby, Lesley Carruthers, Donna Morrissey, Billy Budge, Joyce Oliver-Snair, Terri Morse and Kenneth David.

Library Board Member Councillor Ned MacDonald of Inverness was extremely busy preparing historical presentations surrounding the 100th birthday of the town of Inverness this past summer. He recently gave ECRL copies of three related publications he has authored or co-authored. They include *Inverness: History, Anecdotes, Memoirs : Inverness Centennial, 1904-2004* with Donald Gillis, *Governed by the Whistle: a History of Inverness Town 1803-2004*, and *Essays in Inverness History*.

Cover of *Inverness: History, Anecdotes, Memoirs*.



Jimmy MacDonald of Inverness (right) dropped by ECRL headquarters in Mulgrave to donate a copy of his recently released book, *Holy Family School of Inverness, 1904-1964*. The book is a compilation of photographs, anecdotes, and stories of the Holy Family School, prepared for the Inverness Centennial. On hand to receive the book was Dave Cumby, Chief Librarian.

Halifax Public Libraries (HPL)

Read To Me! Jamboree - A Special Celebration of Babies, Books and Reading!

Since January 2002, the *Read to Me!* Program has given families of new babies born in Nova Scotia a kit of resources to encourage them to begin reading and sharing songs and rhymes with their child right from birth. The kit includes board books, a CD of lullabies and rhymes and other resources for parents. Over 13,000 families in Nova Scotia have received the *Read to Me!* kit and in October 2004 the program will be operating province-wide - reaching every new baby! Nova Scotia's Regional Libraries are joining with *Read to Me!* in celebrating this achievement by hosting *Read to Me!* Jamboree parties in libraries across the province, inviting all families with children born since January 2002.

HPL's *Read to Me!* Jamboree parties will feature a special session of the popular Baby's First Books Program - where babies and their care-givers will enjoy stories, songs and rhymes together as well as play time. Resources will be provided for parents and care-givers to use at home and there will be special gifts and prize draws as well, all free of charge.

Online Computer Booking

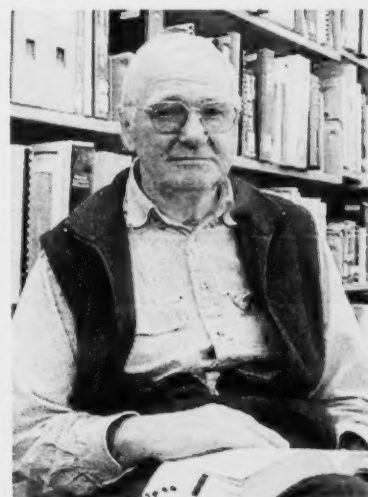
This fall Halifax Public Libraries users will be able to quickly and easily reserve a library computer from home, office, school, CAP site, cyber café or any of the 14 HPL locations. A pilot phase of this project will take place later this fall at the Keshen Goodman and Spring Garden Road Branches. After this pilot phase, the service will be expanded to all other locations.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

Writer in Residence Now In Circulation

With much anticipation on PARL's behalf, the new Writer In Residence, Sheldon Currie, began his official duties with PARL on Monday, September 6. Over the course of his tenure with PARL, Currie will deliver a series of creative writing sessions in fiction and poetry to adults and students and be available for one-on-one writing consultation sessions. As a published author and retired professor of English, he will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position that will serve the writers of Pictou and Antigonish Counties well in the coming months. This project will provide an unprecedented opportunity for writers in these areas to hone their craft as writers and in turn help to preserve our cultural identity. To further immerse himself into the writing environment of the area, he will take part in the high-energy meetings of the Pictou County Writer's Group as an informal observer. Projects for the second part of his tenure include online creative writing workshops, script and playwriting sessions, and more school outreach.

Sheldon Currie strikes a relaxing pose pondering his duties as PARL's new Writer in Residence.



Summer Writing Camp

Once again PARL hosted a creative writing program for children as part of the summer programming schedule. The four day event took place in the New Glasgow Library Program Room from Monday, July 19 to Thursday July 22, from 9:30 -12: 00 noon and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. each day. Aimed at introducing young writers to the basics of creative writing skills, this program was offered at no charge to twenty participants, ages nine to fifteen. This year's line up of instructors and their topics in order of the days they presented were: Magi Namns, wildlife writing, contributing writer for Ranger Rick magazine; Linda Little, award winning novelist, character development; Paul Zann, retired educator and poetry author, poetry writing; and award winning educator and author of six young adult novels Sylvia Gunnery. On the last day of the workshops Gunnery hosted an open mike session for appreciative parents as the young writers stood in front of the group and read what they created during the week. As always, some writing materials and prizes were provided courtesy of the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program, helping to sweeten the experience for everyone. This will mark the third installment of the Summer Writing Camp at the New Glasgow Library Program Room. Each year the effort has received very positive comments from children, parents and instructors.

Wireless Hotspot Services Now at PARL Branches

As of September 1, all branches of PARL were equipped with Wireless Hotspot technology. Library users in the immediate vicinity of PARL's transmitters are able to access high-speed Internet service via their laptops at no charge. Using a technology known as 802.11b, laptop owners can wirelessly connect to Internet resources for work, recreational purposes, or checking e-mail. Today, most laptops sold come with the necessary WiFi – enabled feature, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) standard for wireless data networking widely adopted throughout the world. Also participating in this innovative service are the Havre Boucher and Lakevale Community Access Sites in Antigonish County, the Green Thumb Farmers Market in Alma and Pictou Island CAP Site.

Assistive Technology Workshop

On November 18 and 19, PARL will host a two day workshop on creating accessible and welcoming CAP sites for individuals with disabilities and functional limitations. Delivering the sessions will be Barbara Welsford, Director of the Assistive Technology Centre, Russ Holland, Program

Director of the Alliance for Technology Access, and Chris Judge, CNIB Trainer. Workshops and areas of focus include: assessment of client needs, technology options that lead to accessibility, software that could be considered, a review of resources and training available, and demonstration of CNIB resources for visually impaired clients. This event is sponsored by PARL and the Nova Scotia Office of Economic Development in partnership with Industry Canada. It is anticipated that two persons per CAP Regional Working Group will attend the workshop. Interested parties can contact PARL headquarters at 755-6031 and speak to Eric Stackhouse or Karen MacNeil.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)



SSRL staff pose with Library Chair Don Zwicker after receiving certificates acknowledging their years of service at the Library. Left to right, back row: Barbara Davis, Teresa Workman, Sharon Hiltz, Don Zwicker, Barbara Himmelman. Front row: Janet Clark, Cate Bird.

Author Readings

Authors Julie Lawson, Jill Bryant, Kathy Stinson and Joan Clark took time from their busy schedules to visit several schools throughout Lunenburg and Queens Counties on behalf of the library while they were in Nova Scotia for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Award Ceremony this spring. Over 400 children and adults listened to the authors read from and talk about their books, many of which are award winners. SSRL successfully received a Canada Council grant to invite the authors. Since many school children are in rural areas, library staff have driven authors to the schools for the last three years. So far, almost every school in Lunenburg and Queens County has hosted a library author and over 2,000 children have benefited. A library staff member accompanies the author to the school, introduces him or her and takes the opportunity to tell students about the library. The fall lineup includes Lesley Choyce, Sue Goyette and Budge Wilson.

International Cookware on Head Day

Now that SSRL's esteemed Chief has been the fearless leader for nigh on twenty years, the following will show what effect twenty years at the Library can have! Chief Librarian Janet Clark (and entourage) entered (and won!) The Warrior Librarian's International Cookware on Head contest. Oh dear. Yes, that is SSRL's Chief with a pot on her head. Deep sigh ...

Fetching in her streamers and saucepan attire (for International Cookware on Head Day) is H.M. Janet Clark, Chief Librarian, South Shore Regional Library, Nova Scotia, Canada. Ms. Clark is the top prize winner in the Warrior Librarian contest!



Women at Work

Krista Orchard, Driver/Clerk on Mobile Branch 2, has been in the spotlight too, albeit recently. SSRL's handy Driver/Clerk agreed to have her picture entered in a "Women in the act . . . of living" calendar contest from Second Story, the local women's centre. The entry was selected as a winner and Krista will be featured in the 2005 fundraising calendar, due out this fall.



Driver/Clerk Krista Orchard changes the oil in her bus in her work clothes. Krista will be featured in a 2005 Women in the act . . . of living calendar.

BCANS Breast Health Fair

Staff at the Thomas H. Raddall Library in Liverpool took part in the second BCANS Breast Health Fair. The Fair, which took place Thursday, September 23 (4 - 8 pm) offered exhibits and displays that inform and enlighten people about breast health. Internet workshops on the BCANS website and the Nova Scotia Health Network were held throughout the evening.

Liverpool Gets Passionate!

SSRL's Passion Series is back! Last spring this series attracted a large following at the Thomas H. Raddall Library in Liverpool and it is hoped the sessions will be as well received this fall. Topics in September and October include a passion for rug hooking and a passion for genealogy. Speakers are local residents for the most part and they talk about the passion they have for life and for what they do. The Passion Series is scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7 pm. Admission is free, with donations accepted. Future speakers include a sommelier and a newspaper columnist. The Passion Series is so popular it will be offered at the Lunenburg Library too, with fall topics including knitting and Ghana.

Book Sale Set For September

SSRL's Book Sale was held on Sept. 25 & 26 at the Michelin Social Club, Logan Road, Bridgewater. Folks who wait for the sale each spring and fall know that this is where the bargains are and are snapped up early! Hardcover books are \$2 and up and paperbacks \$1 each. Doors opened Saturday from 10 - 4 and Sunday from noon - 3. Although the tally isn't in yet, the Book Sale raises approximately \$10,000 per year for SSRL's book budget.

Partners

In September, SSRL and the Lunenburg and Queens County VON units began to present a fall lecture series for seniors and those who love them. The series will be held each month in the Thomas H. Raddall Library (Liverpool) and will rotate between Lunenburg, Bridgewater and Chester in Lunenburg County. Program organizers hope to capitalize on the popularity of the SSRL's Seniors' Café by combining library programming with topics of health and well being for seniors. Topics this fall will include preplanning a funeral, legal aspects of aging and new regulations for preparing yourself or a loved one for long term care.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Library Staff Win The Adopt-a-Book Challenge

Just over \$24,000 worth of new books are now on library shelves throughout Western Nova Scotia as a result of WCRL's 2004 Adopt-a-Book campaign. The campaign, which ended July 1, surpassed its goal of 1000 books by nearly 20 per cent. The campaign featured a challenge this year. Donors could increase the power of their donation by inviting others to also contribute. The individual or group who succeeded in bringing in the most donations won the challenge. Leading the challenges was WCRL's own staff. Staff raised just over \$2,550 for books through their own contributions and through challenging others. For that effort, they have earned the right to adopt the campaign mascot *Lotta Bookz*. It will travel throughout the region over the next year.

As in past campaigns, Friends of the Library groups in Lockeport, Shelburne, Barrington, Clark's Harbour, Pubnico and Weymouth continue to lead the fundraising efforts. The six Friends of the Library Groups contributed \$3,229 towards this year's campaign, not including donations to the campaign made by individual members. The Shelburne Friends group alone contributed \$1,629 throughout the campaign.

The Adopt-a-Book campaign has been sponsored by CJLS Radio since its inception and receives tremendous support from media outlets throughout the region. Regional Director Trudy Amirault attributes the campaign's enduring success to that support. "There is strong community support for our libraries and our media partnerships help us connect to that support," she said.

Lotta Bookz, the Adopt-a-Book campaign mascot.



SUMMER READING PROGRAMMES

Six of Nova Scotia's Public Libraries: AVRL, CBRL, CURL, ECRL, SSRL and WCRL joined eight other Canadian provinces and territories to partner with the TD Bank Financial Group and Library and Archives Canada for the first ever TD National Summer Reading Club. The theme for this trial year was a quest for dragons with the slogan *Fire up your Imagination! Dragons, Books and Quests*. The promotional components of this bilingual program included a letter signed by the National Librarian, Roch Carrier, inviting schools to participate; a bookmark to encourage children to enroll; staff manuals providing resources such as ideas on how to run a successful reading club, clipart, booklists, certificates of participation and completion, and games; and a summer reading kit for participants which included a poster, stickers and activity booklet. TD Bank Financial Group funded the reading Club.

A follow-up evaluation meeting was held in Ottawa in September and a report on the national success of the program will be forthcoming.

AVRL

The summer was filled with exciting children's programming. AVRL had three students working in the positions of Summer Program Directors in four branches to offer a variety of programs, which included a drama club, craft workshops, a writing club, story times, French club and both academic and computer tutorials. The Summer Reading Program theme *Fire Up Your Imagination: Dragons, Books and Quests* was incorporated into many of the programs. Another term employee and two additional students funded by Industry Canada and HRSDC hosted activities and events in three other libraries.

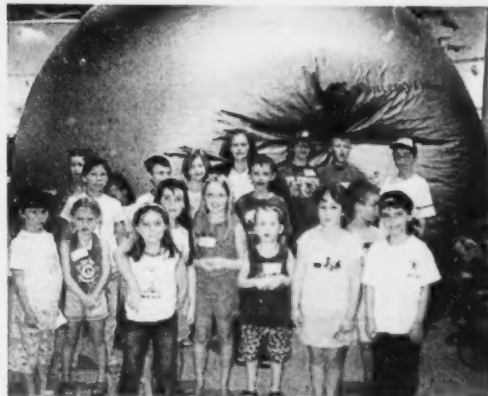
CBRL

CBRL was very pleased with the results and the positive feedback from the Summer Reading Program -a joint effort with the TD Summer Reading Club. Many people came together to contribute to the Summer Reading Program's success. They included the 680 children who completed the *Dragon Quest* and read an impressive 9,418 books; parents/guardians who encouraged their children to read and brought them to the library over the summer months; the generosity of over 212 sponsors; and the staff at all CBRL branches. Donna MacLeod at the McConnell Library coordinated CBRL's Summer Reading Program this year. To complement the TD Summer Reading *Dragon Quest*, the library added a few extra events. Throughout July and August craft days, fun days and games days were held at most of the branches. In September, a number of parties were held to conclude the program and to congratulate all of the Summer Readers who completed the program.



Young author and university student Lindsay Thompson reads her story *Reflections of an Almost Perfect Princess*.

In August CBRL unveiled the identity of the TD Summer Reading Club's Mystery Dragon- Draco. The McConnell Library borrowed UCCB's StarLab to find Draco the constellation in the night sky. Shown are a group of summer readers standing in front of the Star Lab.



A crowd gathers for the first Summer Reading Closing Party. Certificates and prizes were handed out to every child who completed the program.

CBRL's Donna MacLeod presents the grand prize- a bike donated by the Cape Breton Post to six year old Sarah MacLean.

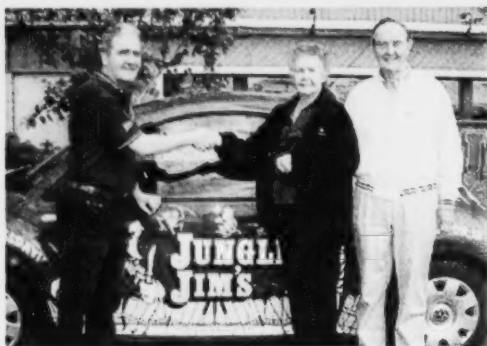


CEHRL

We Survived the Summer Reading Program!

The theme this year for CEHRL's Summer Reading Program was *It's a jungle out there. Read to survive/La vie est un jungle. Il faut lire pour survivre*, and it proved to be very popular. The jungle decor of palm trees, monkeys, lions, giraffes and snakes (all with a friendly, nonthreatening temperament!) encouraged 720 children and teens to participate, a 5.7% increase over last year. Prizes and incentives, many courtesy of the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program, encouraged the reading of 10,876 books!

For the first time, adults were invited to join in the fun and be seen reading. A total of 323 signed up. Participants enjoyed submitting short reviews of books read and entering their names for weekly draws. The reviews were posted around the reading rooms and generated some interesting discussions. CEHRL extended thanks to local businesses for donating prizes, including the grand prize of dinner for two at Jungle Jim's with the added bonus of a drive to and from the restaurant in the brightly decorated Jungle Jim beetle!



Marjorie and Ian Rae, winners of the Adult Summer Reading Program, are congratulated by the Jungle Jim manager, Paul Chisholm, for their grand prize of a dinner for two plus transportation in the colourful Jungle Jim car.

CURL

2004 was the busiest year ever for CURL's Summer Reading Club. A whopping 569 children between the ages of 3-12 participated in the club this year. This was a 32% increase over the previous year. The dragon theme proved popular with kids of all ages. To enhance the program, an online activity component was added this year. The website was highlighted on the Toronto Public Library Summer Reading Club site. The Atlantic Superstore donated a special dragon cake for the Reading Club Wrap Up Party. Chelsey Borne, a grade two student from Amherst, won a Tattletales Bag of Books.

Summer Reading Club t-shirt winners are pictured with the Amherst TD Bank Manager Carol Hurley and Summer Student Karen Bishop.



Summer Reading Club dragon cake!

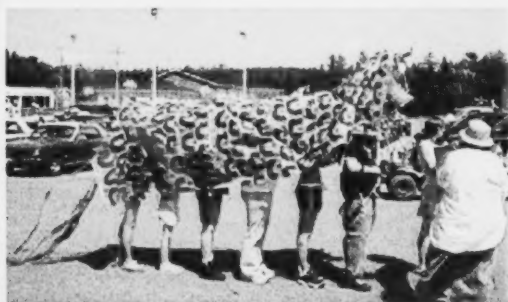
Tattletales winner Chelsey Borne.



Once again CURL offered a Summer Reading Program for teens across Cumberland County. The format was reorganized this year to allow teens one ballot to enter for prizes for every two hours of reading. This was done to encourage students who wanted to read longer books or who read at a slower pace. Major sponsors for this program were Atlantic Combustion, Sifto Canada and Scotsburn Dairy. Several local businesses also donated prizes. Thanks to their generosity, five prizes of gift certificates for merchandise were given out each week. The number of young adult items read in June and July was the same as last year and there was still the problem of some branches having no entries some weeks, however, students who did participate commented that they enjoyed the less-structured format more than last years Bingo format.

ECRL

The TD Summer Reading Program 2004 was a great success this summer, attracting 350 participants to the festivities which were held on a regular basis throughout the summer. The theme *Fire up your imagination. Dragons, Books, and Quests* was a favorite with the children who spent the summer on a reading quest in search of the last dragon. Summer student Erika Worthylake was hired to deliver programming in Mulgrave and Port Hawkesbury through the Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations, while Martina Babin provided bilingual programming at the Petit de Grat Branch through the Jeunesse Canada au Travail program. Other Branch and Mobile staff contributed to the many innovative programming events surrounding this year's theme.



ECRL's Lesley Brothers, foreground, checks to make sure the dragon is assembled properly for the Sherbrooke parade.

Branch staff in Sherbrooke and Petit de Grat participated in parades held in their communities this summer. Sherbrooke Library staff were in full gear at the Canada Day parade held in the Historic Sherbrooke Village. As a way to promote the upcoming TD Summer Reading Program and its theme, staff designed a full sized dragon, complete with 6 sets of legs! The Petit de Grat children were also very creative, as they designed and colored their creation for the Acadian parade held during the Congr s Mondial Acadien 2004.

Trying on the dragon costume was a favorite activity at the Petit de Grat closing party.



HPL

Halifax Public Libraries Summer Reading Program 2004 *TIMESWITCHERS*

HPL's program this year was based around a time travel adventure story, where four modern-day kids are transported back to the Middle Ages to help a princess save her kingdom. A new chapter of the story was released each week on the *Timeswitchers* website and printed versions were also available in branches. As children progressed toward their reading goals, they earned collector cards representing the major characters in the story. Olga Milosevich of CBC radio volunteered to read and record each chapter of the story, so that audio files of the story were also available on the website.

This year, HPL expanded the outreach component of the SRP - 6 branches partnered with a daycamp in their community, and provided materials so that the children in the daycamp could participate in the SRP offsite. This was seen as a way to bring the SRP to kids who might not otherwise participate since, by being in a daycamp setting all day, they would not often be brought by parents to the library at other times to participate as individuals and not all daycamps include library visits as part of their activities. Each group that participated got a small collection of paperbacks to keep, thanks to the donations from Imperial Oil. The daycamp leaders loved the opportunity to have resources to integrate reading into their daily activities. A total of 336 children participated in the SRP through HPL's daycamp project. Depending on the branch, some of the daycamps also made regular visits to the library for SRP - related programming.

Alderney Gate Library conducted a successful pilot project with online SRP registration using a simple WordPerfect database. This eliminated paper registration files and made statistic collecting at the end so much easier! The plan is to offer this to other branches next year! Staff found that using the online registration template was quite a bit faster than the manual method, and since there was a PC dedicated for this purpose on the SRP desk, staff could show kids the website at the same time.

Part of the promotion plan this year was the production of bus shelter ads for the SRP, which were visible at various bus stops at HRM, including Scotia Square. Again, these were made possible thanks to the donation from Imperial Oil.

5,414 children overall participated in the SRP this year, and read a total of 65, 871 books! Mayor Peter Kelly, who, for the second year in a row, hand-signed over 2,000 certificates that were given to each child who completed the program! The Timeswitchers website can be found at www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/timeswitchers.

PARL

Feedback from participants and the statistics show that the annual Summer Reading Program was well received by readers this past summer. For the first time both adults and children participated in this family literacy program helping to set a new high in books read at 13,640. With the theme, *It's a Jungle Out There: Read to Survive*, children took part in a wide range of programs based on adventure and safari activities. As in past years, several draw prizes were provided through the Adopt a Library Literacy Program.

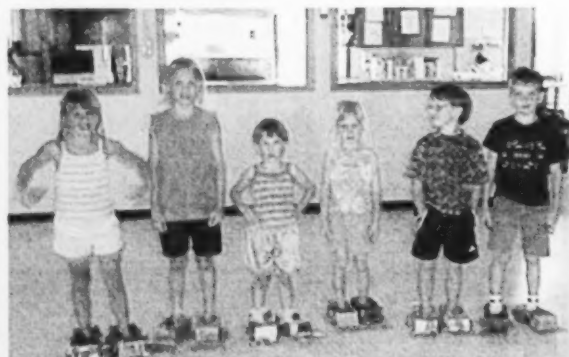


Sharon DeYoung of the New Glasgow Wal-Mart presents a cheque in support of Summer Reading Program to Constable John Kennedy and PARL's Children's Programmers.

SSRL

Fire Up Your Imagination fired up the desire in 452 kids to read throughout Lunenburg and Queens Counties. The TD Summer Reading Club theme was a hit from the get go, with an increase of 124 kids registering. Kids (and staff!) loved the materials and enjoyed looking for dragon books which would earn them an extra point towards their goal of 25 books each. Summer student Katie Clarke added to the program with her Dragon Club for kids ages 3 - 12. Katie traveled throughout the region, especially to rural areas such as Blandford and New Ross, to tell kids about the summer reading program and keep them interested with dragon crafts and stories! 224 kids participated in Katie's program at 44 sessions. Thanks are extended to TD and Library and Archives Canada for providing such a great program.

These young readers from Parkdale/Maplewood participated in SSRL's Dragon Club, an activity program hosted by library summer student Katie Clarke. The Dragon Club focused on the Summer Reading Club and offered rural kids a story and craft hour related to the program theme. The children pictured are proudly sporting *dragon feet*.



WCRL

The Reptile Show Wows Audiences Throughout Western Nova Scotia

A live reptile show proved to be the highlight of this year's Summer Reading Program at WCRL. The Reptile Show, headed by Halifax resident Mike Lawton, provided an educational and entertaining show for kids. The stars of the show are various reptiles – from a nine-foot python named Con to a blue-tongued skunk. With sponsorship from McDonald's Restaurants The Reptile Show visited five libraries from Digby to Shelburne. They performed to full houses at every venue. More than 250 children attended. Adults in the audience enjoyed the show as much as their kids. For some of the branches that could not have The Reptile Show, a local pet store which had exotic pets, led a program. This was well received, too.



Mary Anne Bellefontaine with a bearded dragon.

A tree frog from Africa.



Libraries participating in WCRL's Summer Reading Program offered fewer programs than last year, but saw a substantial increase in the number of children attending those programs. Libraries hosted 51 programs this year with an average attendance of 20 per program. As part of the TD National Summer Reading Club, this year the region sent out 5,167 invitations to join through the schools. A presentation was made to all elementary school principals in the region.

Registered participants in the program slipped by nearly 30 per cent this year, to 768 children. This was due in part to the unsuccessful efforts to partner with a municipality's day camp program, resulting in the loss of 250 children. However, this year's program was augmented by a new outreach effort, which saw summer students and library clerks going out to various headstart, pre-school programs. Though the children reached through these activities aren't reflected in the numbers, they received a terrific library orientation and the expectation is that they will be program participants in the future. Nearly 16,000 children's books and other materials were circulated.



Summer student Christina Brown works with children during a crafts program at the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Library in Yarmouth.

One of WCRL's participants won a TattleTales Bag of Books draw. The prize was presented at the young reader's school, with her principal present, which helped raise awareness for the Summer Reading Program.

WCRL is indebted to the operators of the local McDonald's Restaurant (Yarmouth and Barrington outlets) for their commitment to children's literacy. As local sponsors they not only provided prizes, but also cash to fund special programming, like The Reptile Show.

Regional Library Director Trudy Amirault and Bonnie Wells, Yarmouth Manager at McDonald's Restaurants, present 4-year-old Roxanne Grisé with the grand prize in the McTrivia summer reading contest. Participants received a ballot for every 12 books read.



NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS



Regional automation staff receive training on Unicorn's new Collection Exchange module from Jean-Yves Côté of Sirsi Canada.

GOVERNMENT @ YOUR SERVICE

Since March 2004, the Provincial Library has been working with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and the Office of Economic Development to develop an e-government service delivery model for Nova Scotia. The result is *Government @ Your Service*, a web site designed to provide links to resources and services from different departments and levels of government in a focused and organized way to guide users through life's events and milestones. It can be found at <http://www.atyourservice.ca/>.

Government @ Your Service presents *bundles* of government information, forms and links dealing with major events or experiences in the life of a typical Nova Scotia resident, called Life Events. Fourteen Life Events include those times in a person's life that are major events or milestones, such as looking for a job, getting married or divorced, having a baby or adopting a child, or learning to drive a car. There are other times when people encounter difficulties such as problems with money matters, family violence, or losing a loved one. So whether you have lost your wallet, are looking for a job or considering further education, this service will provide access to resources from all three levels of government.

Government @ Your Service is currently being piloted in six communities across Nova Scotia. Barrington Passage, Main-a-Dieu, Sheet Harbour, Shelburne, Spryfield and Sydney are all participating in this pilot project to encourage citizens to use the Internet to access government information and services. Staff and volunteers at CAP sites and libraries in these communities have received training on how to assist citizens in using the on-line resources.

It is expected that *Government @ Your Service* will be available in all public libraries and CAP sites by early in 2005.

FALL LINE-UP OF OLA AUDIO CONFERENCES

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the Maritimes Health Libraries Association recently co-sponsored *The Art and Practice of Electronic Journal, Book, and Database Licenses: Practical Tips for Health Care Organizations*, a satellite teleconference offered by the Medical Library Association, Chicago. The teleconference was geared toward medical libraries, but it provided useful and relevant information for all types of libraries that are involved in licensing of electronic products. Participants who attended the live broadcast, which was held at the Provincial Library on September 22, were from medical, public and university libraries. Teleconference presenters included Rick Anderson, Director of Resource Acquisition, University of Nevada-Reno Libraries; Audrey Bondar, Senior Information Resource Specialist, Sladen Library, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI; Jill Emery, Director, Electronic Resources Program, M.D. Anderson Library, University of Houston Libraries, Houston, TX; and Elizabeth R. Lorbeer, Collection Development Manager, Library of Rush University, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL. Those who attended rated the teleconference highly and felt that it made them aware of the various aspects of licensing as well as providing practical information on license negotiation and knowledge of key elements and wording to look for in licensing agreements.

This fall the Provincial Library is hosting a number of Audio Conferences which are being offered through the Education Institute of the Ontario Library Association. These are sixty minute sessions on a variety of timely topics. The first of these, *Selecting Graphic Novels for Children and Young Adults : A Concerned Fanboy Speaks Up* with Douglas Davey, Children's and Youth Advocate for the Halton Hills Public Library, took place on September 29th. Participants at the Halifax site were from public and school libraries as well as some students from the Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies. Sessions were also held at CEHRL, CBRL, CURL and SSRL.

Here is a list of additional sessions being hosted at the Provincial Library this fall. More information will be sent out about each of these closer to the time that it takes place. To register for any of the sessions contact Carol Morris at morriscc@gov.ns.ca or phone 424-2477.

- *People WILL Change: Transforming Organizational Culture (Strategic Conversations with Leaders Series)*. Instructors: Jane Watkins, Chief Librarian, North Vancouver City Library; Francine Carlin, Principal, Performance Partnership. Thursday, October 14th, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

- *Smart Search Update* with Rita Vine of Workingfaster.com, Thursday, October 28th, 4:00- 5:00 p.m.

- *Serving Seniors*. Instructors: Rosemary Honnold and Saralyn Mesaros, Coshocton Public Library, Coshocton, Ohio. Thursday, November 4, 4:00- 5:00 p.m.

- *Getting Started in Internet Genealogy: An Introduction to Finding and Using Web Resources*. Instructor: Marian Press, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Thursday, November 25, 4:00- 5:00 p.m.

- *Library Marketing That Works*. Instructor: Suzanne Walters, Director of Marketing and Development, Denver Public Library. Wednesday, December 1, 4:00- 5:00 p.m.

In addition to the OLA Audio Conferences, a satellite teleconference from the College of DuPage will be hosted at the Provincial Library on Friday, November 19, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. The topic of this teleconference, titled *The Role of Teaching*, is the expanding role of the librarian. More information and details on this teleconference will be sent out closer to the time that it will take place.

WORD ON THE STREET (WOTS)

Sunday, September 19, 2004 marked the 10th anniversary of WOTS in Halifax. As in previous years, the Nova Scotia Public Libraries hosted a booth at this literary festival held at Pier 20. The booth was shared with the Hackmatack Children's Choice Award. Volunteers staffing the booth were from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and various Nova Scotia public libraries including CURL's Frances Newman, ECRL's Lesley Carruthers and WCRL's Belle Hatfield, as well as Hackmatack Board members and author Sylvia Gunnery. The supply of TD National Summer Reading Club posters and stickers were quickly snapped up by visitors to the booth. There was much interest shown in the Public Library Week poster (October 18 - 24) for 2004. A colourful display of some of the titles nominated for the Hackmatack Award for 2005 helped to draw visitors to the booth, where they were invited to fill in a ballot for a chance to win a number of Hackmatack nominated titles.

ECRL's Lesley Carruthers, centre, is shown helping visitors to the Nova Scotia Public



Library's booth at WOTS 2004.

STAFF CHANGES

Jeff Mercer recently accepted the position of Branch/Extension/Systems Librarian with the South Shore Regional Library. His co-workers wish him the best!



Provincial Library's secretary Susan Slaunwhite, shown here in the centre, is wished well by Learning Resources and Technology's Sarah Hainsworth, on the left, and Nancy Chisholm, on the right, as she begins a new position with the Dept. of Education .

LINKed

This month's *Linked* column features dictionary sites and other interesting word sites. Included in the selection are a portal type site with translating dictionaries as well as some unique and useful resources that have information on word origins, unusual words and new words and phrases.

The Hutchinson Dictionary of Difficult Words at <http://www.tiscali.co.uk/reference/dictionaries/difficultwords/> has over 13,900 difficult words. You can search the site or browse to find the meaning of these unusual words. Provided by Helicon Publishing.

Lexicool.com: Directory of bilingual and multilingual dictionaries at <http://www.lexicool.com/> has links to over 3,500 bilingual and multilingual dictionaries and glossaries which are available free. The site is maintained by an international team of linguists and information technology specialists based in France. You can search by languages you want to translate from or to, by subject or by keywords in titles of dictionaries or by combinations of any or all of these.

The contents of the *Online Etymology Dictionary* at <http://www.etymonline.com/> are taken from a large number of authoritative etymology sources which are all listed on the site. Click on *Introduction and Abbreviations* at the bottom of the main page for a key to abbreviations used in entries. This useful resource is the work of Douglas Harper an historian, author, journalist and lecturer based in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Use *The Word Spy* at <http://www.wordspy.com/> to keep up on new words and phrases. The author of the site, Paul McFedries, gets the new terms from magazines, newspapers, books, web sites and other recorded sources where they have appeared a number of times. You can search for words or browse using subject and alphabetical indexes. Definitions and examples of how these new terms are used are provided.

World Wide Words at <http://www.worldwidewords.org/> has information on the origins and evolution of English words and phrases. You can ask the author of the site, Michael Quinion, a question about a word. This well organized site has sections on Topical Words, Turns of Phrase and Weird Words.

Web sites which were featured in previous *Linked* columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at <http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm>. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

PROFESSIONAL COLUMN

In this month's column, two books on building effective web sites are featured. These books can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca (or tel: 902-424-2479 / fax: 902-424-0633).

Davidson, Susanna - *Web site design with the patron in mind : a step-by-step guide for libraries* by Susanna Davidson and Evelyn Yankee. Chicago : American Library Association, 2004.

Call # PROF 025 .04 Dav

In this book, the authors take readers step by step through the process of creating a user-friendly web presence in the library. They discuss the pitfalls of so many sites that are either too crowded with information on the front page or have it buried so deep in the site that the patrons cannot easily find what they need. They give librarians and web designers a great tool for analyzing designing, testing, then launching a web page.

Wilson, A. Paula - *Library Web sites : creating online collections and services*. Chicago : American Library Association, 2004.

Call #: PROF 025 .04 Wil

The author draws on her own experiences, outlines case studies and trolls the library literature for trends and issues related to the delivery of online collections and services. She also addresses public service aspects of implementing web services that can help tech staffs have a broader understanding of library services and how technology affects them. Appendices at the end of the book provide a sample editorial calendar, a detailed list of web management resources, and an extensive bibliography.

The Disseminator is an electronic newsletter from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, 3770 Kempt Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3K 4X8.
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<http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/>

Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Arlene Watts at wattsam@gov.ns.ca

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